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ACTIVITIES OF THE USSR ALL-UNION SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY OF HYGIENISTS

(Russian editor's note: The following is based on material received by the Board of the society during the first quarter of 1952.)

The Tula branch of the Society met during 1951 in eight plenary sessions. Ten papers were read at those meetings. One of those papers, by E. F. Katuykova, was dedicated to the problem of utilization of I. P. Pavlov's teachings on the theory and practice of hygiene education. A paper by G. S. Kasatkin and one by Z. V. Zasyypkin were on the subject of prevention of dysentery in children. The session devoted to dysentery was conducted outside of Tula; it was held in Kosogorsk Rayon with the sanitation officers and therapists of the rayon participating. Several talks, dealing with the plans and reports of the local health agencies and sanitation establishments, were given.

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The Tula branch took an active part in organizing and directing a local conference of the Central Sanitary-Hygienic Institute imeni Erisman. Five lectures were delivered by the members of this branch. The branch is carrying on systematic educational work in sanitation and in improvement of qualifications of practical hygienists of the oblast.

The branch's first session in 1952 was devoted to the discussion of plans for scientific and practical work of the oblast and city sanitary-epidemiological stations and of the oblast tularemia control station. Several amendments to the plan were proposed when the plan was discussed. These amendments were subsequently accepted by the proper agencies. Several topics were selected for over-all development within various establishments.

At a conference held by the Ivanovo branch, the results of reorganization of the Sanitary-Epidemiological Service within the oblast and in the cities of the oblast were discussed. The conference was addressed by N. I. Semenov and V. D. Romanov. The records of the oblast and of the city sanitary-epidemiological stations showed that reorganization has improved their service to the population. These stations are successfully preparing the sanitation workers of subprofessional level for duty in the rayon sanitary-epidemiological stations of the oblast. The work of these stations is gradually becoming better organized: they now have laboratories. A number of rayon sanitary epidemiological stations, however, do not as yet have the necessary equipment and housing facilities. This retards their work. Very little progress has been made in promotion of educational work in sanitation; the local executive committees have failed to establish everywhere conditions that are needed by sanitary-epidemiological stations in order to conduct their work efficiently.

At the meeting of the Kuybyshev branch of the society, reports were read and new officers were elected. A new directorate was also chosen. All members registered and 35 new members were enrolled. Many of the new members are practical workers in the oblast.

The chief health officer (literally, chief sanitary physician) of the oblast sanitary-epidemiological station addressed the Crimean branch of the society. He described the Stalingrad session of the Academy of Medical Sciences USSR and also the local session of the Crimean branches of the Society of Hygienists and the Society of Epidemiologists which was held in Dzhankoy. At both these conferences, sanitary-epidemiological service at new construction projects was discussed. Grinberg, Neymark, and Inleleva told those present about the sanitary conditions of the rayons comprising the region within the territory of which lies the North Crimean canal route and of preventive measures that are necessary there. The assembly decided to be represented on the special committee which is a part of the Oblast Executive Committee and has the function of expediting construction of the canal. The decisions taken at both the Stalingrad and Dzhankoy meetings were to lay the foundation for this committee's activities. A positive aspect of reporting on sanitary-epidemiological conditions along the canal route was the fact that prominent sanitation workers were attracted to work in that area. The conference resolved to request the oblast sanitary-epidemiological station to present to the Oblast Executive Committee the main problems connected with sanitary-epidemiological service within the territory of canal construction.

The problems of water supply to populated rural areas of Belogorsk Rayon, Crimean Oblast, was discussed at one of the meetings of the conference. Professor Okulov spoke on that subject. Investigation revealed defects in the use of the water-supply line. The Crimean branch of the society recommended to its oblast sanitary-epidemiological station that a seminar be held for the benefit of workers of the water-supply lines on the subject of water chlorination.

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K. K. Khoteyeva described the work of the Makarov Hospital in Kiev Oblast. During the discussion period that followed, Professor Sysoyev informed those present of the joint resolution of the Crimean Medical Institute and the Oblast Health Department to make the Krasnogvardeysk Rayon Hospital a demonstration unit as far as utilization of the experience of the Makarov Hospital is concerned. With that end in view, trips have been arranged for medical workers of the medical institute so that they can assist the Krasnogvardeysk Rayon medical workers.

Members of the Omsk branch heard F. P. Shustova speak on the subject of "Incidence of Diseases and Traumatic Injuries Among Omsk Railroad Workers." She stressed the significance of medical supervision over safety measures and the necessity of participation of the sanitation system in providing a health service to workers. E. B. Sabinskaya spoke on "Experience of the Sanitary-Hygienic Laboratory of the 'Vodzdav' Sanitary-Epidemiological Station." She described the first steps in the work of this laboratory. The conference recognized the need for cooperation between laboratories and personnel that is active in all branches of medicine, so that the laboratory may become a base of operations for both health officers and epidemiologists.

Omsk branch members also heard the report of Zakharov, health officer of the Omsk Railroad Sanitary-Epidemiological Station. He spoke on the condition of the water supply along that railroad. He mentioned several shortcomings in the utilization of water pipeline installations along the railroad and recommended concrete measures for elimination of these shortcomings.

As a result of a report made by R. P. Smirnova, Assistant of the Chair of General Hygiene at the Omsk Medical Institute, on the subject of "Chlorination of Water Supplied by Omsk Water-Supply Pipelines," members of the branch passed a resolution referring this question to the attention of the City [Soviet] Executive Committee. It was resolved also to lend a hand in organizing sanitation in the city and in improving supervision of water chlorination. It was recommended that the city sanitary-epidemiological station conduct a seminar on chlorination for the benefit of technicians of the water-supply pipelines.

The Omsk branches of the Society of Hygienists and of the Society of Epidemiologists held a joint meeting which was addressed by N. P. Sokolov, the Chief Health Officer of Omsk. He discussed methods for the prevention of gastrointestinal diseases during the year 1952. A proposal that all society members participate actively in efforts toward prevention of intestinal diseases was approved at the meeting. It was decided that special attention be given to evaluation of preventive and therapeutic measures, carrying out educational work in sanitation, procurement of medicaments and disinfectants for pharmacies, and reviewing plans for scientific work that is carried out by various chairs of medical institutes so as to draw their interest to this work.

Functions of city sanitary-epidemiological stations in relation to industrial establishments were discussed by G. A. Zlatkin.

V. F. Sukhorebryy, Assistant at the Chair of General Hygiene of the Medical Institute; addressed the meeting of the Kazan' branch of the society; his subject was "The Teachings of I. P. Pavlov in Regard to the Second Signal System."

The Irkutsk branch met in 11 plenary sessions during 1950 - 1951. At these sessions, 17 papers were read, of which 13 were by scientific workers and four by practical physicians. Of particular interest were two reports which discussed the teachings of I. P. Pavlov and two other reports which dealt with the work of Michurin-Lysenko. New directors to the board were elected. The new board was instructed to initiate a drive for new members among practicing health officers, to organize active assistance to new construction projects in Irkutsk Oblast, and to assign members of the branch who are practicing physicians to help scientific workers in organizing scientific projects.

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Members of the Saratov branch heard an address by D. M. Kosmodamianskaya, a scientific associate of the Medical Institute, who spoke on the subject of "Quality of Water Furnished by the Saratov Water-Supply System." Material gathered by the city sanitary-epidemiological station was used in preparing the speech.

N. N. Bogomolova, the chief health officer of the sanitary-epidemiological station, addressed the Kursk branch of the society. She presented a plan for the prevention of gastrointestinal diseases during 1952. The joint session of the Kursk branch of the Society of Hygienists and of the local branch of the Society of Epidemiologists adopted an extensive plan, made several practical recommendations to the city sanitary-epidemiological station, and resolved to urge members of both societies to write letters, print pamphlets, and deliver lectures on the subject of the prevention of gastrointestinal diseases, so that the general public may become familiar with the problem. The joint session decided to request the oblast sanitary-epidemiological station to present its over-all plan for prevention of gastrointestinal diseases and to have members of the staff of rayon sanitary-epidemiological stations also give talks.

The Molotov branch heard E. T. Baranov, the state sanitation inspector of the city, speak on "Accomplishments of the Sanitary-Epidemiological Service in the City of Molotov During the Year 1951 and Tasks That Lie Before It During 1952." The membership approved the plan as well as several practical suggestions for further improvement of the city's sanitation service. M. A. Podgayskaya, a scientific worker of the Molotov Institute of Epidemiology and Microbiology, spoke on the work within the Ministry of Health USSR dealing with prevention of dysentery. The assembly recognized that the principal propositions of the speaker must form the basis for a plan dealing with the prevention of dysentery in Molotov.

The Moldavian Branch examined the conclusions reached at the plenary session of the Board of Directors of the Third All-Union Scientific Society of Hygienists and decided to take measures to reconstruct both the practical and scientific sanitation work and epidemic control to fit the teachings of I. P. Pavlov. The branch also heard a report on the progress of the work of the All-Union Conference for the Prevention of Dysentery. The speaker, E. N. Shlyakhov, described measures to be undertaken within the Moldavian SSR.

The Moldavian branch scrutinized the accomplishments of the Third Moldavian Republic Conference of Hygienists, Epidemiologists, Microbiologists, and Specialists in Infectious Diseases. In its resolution, it pointed out the need for the enlistment of practical workers to take active part in the work of the conference. The membership of the branch also discussed the plan for scientific work to be carried out by the Chair of Hygiene at the Kishinev Medical Institute and by the Sanitary-Hygienic Department of the Moldavian Institute of Epidemiology and Hygiene.

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